

# News Release

**December 21, 2006**



## **Mississippi Office of Homeland Security Awards Funding for Preparedness**

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Jackson, Mississippi –Governor Barbour, along with the Commissioner of Public Safety George Phillips, through the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security are pleased to announce, December 21, 2006, that seventy-five jurisdictions have been awarded a total of \$2,778,570.00 directed at enhancing Mississippi’s ability to act and respond during a disaster. This award will provide funding from 2006 through 2008 and is part of an ongoing partnership effort between the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security and local counties and cities to keep Mississippi safe and prepared for both man-made and natural disasters in the coming years.

Mississippi Homeland Security Director J.W. Ledbetter said “These allocations represent a tangible source of aid throughout the state to enhance Mississippi’s preparedness and response capabilities. All incidents, at their basest form, are local. Providing funding to our counties and municipalities to assist them in their disaster response efforts is another step towards protecting our families and communities.”

The following jurisdictions are a part of this grant allocation:

**Counties:** Alcorn, Calhoun, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Claiborne, Clarke, Clay, Coahoma, Copiah, Forrest, Franklin, George, Hancock, Hinds, Holmes, Itawamba, Jasper, Jefferson Davis, Kemper, Lamar, Lawrence, Leake, Lee, Leflore, Lowndes, Marion, Marshall, Neshoba, Newton,

Oktibbeha, Pearl River, Perry, Pike, Prentiss, Quitman, Rankin, Scott, Simpson, Smith, Stone, Tallahatchie, Tate, Warren, Wayne, Winston and Yazoo.

**Cities:** Biloxi, Brandon, Clarksdale, Clinton, Columbus, Corinth, Gautier, Greenwood, Indianola, Laurel, Long Beach, Madison, McComb, Mississippi State University, Natchez, Olive Branch, Oxford, Pearl, Picayune, Ridgeland, Southaven, Starkville, Tupelo, University of Mississippi, Vicksburg, West Point and Yazoo City.

**Regional Response Teams :** City of Hattiesburg, EMD